

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Michael A. Holmes, *et al.*  
Serial No.: 10/801,792  
Filed: March 16, 2004  
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATICALLY GENERATING  
A HIERARCHICAL REGISTER CONSOLIDATION STRUCTURE  
Grp./A.U.: 2191  
Examiner: Songwei Qian Confirmation No.: 1925

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed  
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February 18, 2008 (Date)

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(Signature of the person signing the certificate)

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH RCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114(c)**

Before continuing examination of the above-identified application, please refer to the  
below arguments and amend the claims as indicated.